



# City of Santa Barbara

## Stage Three Drought Water Use Regulations



On May 5, 2015, the Santa Barbara City Council declared a Stage Three Drought Condition in response to the driest consecutive four years on record. The Stage Three Drought Condition requires a 25% Citywide reduction in overall water use, with mandatory regulations on specific water use applications. These regulations apply to all customers using City of Santa Barbara water and are summarized below. For the full text of the regulations and exceptions, please visit [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Drought](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Drought). Thank you for taking action, we are all in this together.

### OUTDOOR WATER USE REGULATIONS

- Hoses must be equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle when in use.
- Irrigation with potable water is prohibited between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. for automatic systems. If manually operated, such irrigation is prohibited between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Irrigation with potable water that causes runoff onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or parking structures is prohibited. Any excessive, unnecessary or unwarranted use of water is prohibited. All leaks must be repaired as soon as reasonably possible.
- Irrigation during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall is prohibited.
- Washing of pavement and other hard surfaces is generally prohibited. Exceptions: to correct an immediate threat to health and safety, in preparation of painting or sealing, or for dust control, provided it is accomplished by use of a pressure washer, mop, bucket, or brush.
- Vehicles and boats must be washed with a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle or washed at commercial facilities that recycle the water.
- The use of potable water in all non-recirculating ornamental water features and fountains is prohibited. Recirculating fountains with a water surface area greater than 25 ft<sup>2</sup> are prohibited unless located indoors, on residential property, or are home to aquatic life.
- Pools and spas must be equipped with a cover when not in use. No draining or refilling of pools by more than one third, unless authorized.

### COMMERCIAL WATER USE REGULATIONS

- Drought notices are required in restaurants and other eating and drinking establishments; water served on request only.
- Hotels and motels must post a drought notice in each guest room and provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily.
- Gyms, pools, and other businesses providing showers must post drought notices and promote limitation of shower use.

### ENFORCEMENT

Current enforcement is complaint based. To report water waste or other violations of Stage Three Drought Regulations, call (805) 564-5460, email [WConservation@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:WConservation@SantaBarbaraCA.gov) or fill out the online form at [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/ReportWater](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/ReportWater). Pictures are helpful and please note the date, time, and location of the violation. We have no water to waste.

#### Enforcement Process:

1<sup>st</sup> Violation: Door hanger and warning letter

2<sup>nd</sup> Violation: \$250 fine per violation

3<sup>rd</sup> Violation: \$250 fine per violation and possible flow restrictor

4<sup>th</sup> and Subsequent Violation: \$250 fine per violation, possible flow restrictor or shut off water service

**For more information call (805) 564-5460 or visit [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Drought](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Drought)**